

In Society

There will be at least two fashionable weddings in what is technically known as the "Hellenian crowd" of Topeka society this fall. Formal announcements have not yet been made but both engagements are open secrets among the intimates of the young people concerned. The plans of one are so far matured that the attendants have been chosen and will include, beside the sister of the bride, four of the prettiest and most charming young women in town. The bride and groom are both very popular in their set and there will probably be more than the usual number of entertainments in celebration of their wedding. The other wedding, which will probably take place in October, will be that of the charming daughter of a prominent family and a young railroad man of success and promise.

Mrs. Thomas E. Pounds, who leaves Topeka soon to join Mr. Pounds in a permanent residence in Joplin, Missouri, has been the guest of honor at a number of affairs this week. Thursday Mrs. Frederick W. Freeman entertained a small company of Mrs. Pounds' most intimate women friends at the Copeland and on Friday Mrs. Pearl Gray gave a garden party and at fresco breakfast at the John R. Mulvane residence on West sixth avenue and Mrs. E. A. Turrell entertained at 5 o'clock tea, both in Mrs. Pounds' honor. Next Tuesday there will be a picnic at Vinewood and on Wednesday Mrs. Schuyler C. Nichols will give an all day party.

The members of the Hellenian Literary club are requested to meet at the home of the secretary, Mrs. A. C. Richardson, 626 Morris avenue, Thursday afternoon, August 20, to plan for their annual picnic. A full attendance is desired.

The ladies of the Vespuccian club will have an impromptu business meeting Monday afternoon at the home of Mrs. C. M. Lawrence, 513 Tyler street.

Notes and Personal Mention.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Armstrong have returned from Royal Isle, in Upper Lake Superior, where they have been for several weeks.

Miss Mary Lakin and her guest, Miss Schwarz of Chicago left last night for Colorado Springs and Las Animas, Colo. They will visit Mr. and Mrs. Burr Lakin in Las Animas and Miss Schwarz will continue her visit in Topeka when they return.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Watson have returned from an extended lake trip and visit to the northern resorts.

Mr. Hugh McFarland will go to Colorado next week.

Mrs. Will Trapp has gone to Marlow, I. T., for a visit to her parents and goes from there to Vineta where Mr. Trapp, who has been in Topeka for some time, will join her for a permanent residence.

Miss Isabel Heath has gone to Manitou, Colo., to visit Miss Caroline Dickey of Topeka, who is at the Dickey summer home there.

Mrs. Will Macfarren and her son William have gone to Eureka Lake to remain until Mr. Macfarren returns from a fishing trip at Pelican Rapids, Minn.

Miss Hannah Edwards returned to her home in Emporia this morning after a visit to Mrs. William H. Eastman.

Mrs. A. A. Godard and her son Valentin are at Eureka Lake to spend Sunday.

Mr. Hugh McFarland will spend Sunday at Eureka Lake.

Miss Alice Meade left today for Las Vegas, N. M., to visit Miss Amelia Jones. Miss Mary Meade will return with her about September 1.

Miss Eugenia Quinton, Miss Phil Reed, Miss Hazel Howe and Miss Gertrude Mulvane will go to La Junta, Colo., next week to visit Miss Virgil Cain for a week and will stop in Sterling on their way home to spend a week with Miss Helen Quigley.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mitchell passed through Topeka Friday evening on their way to Denver where they will remain until the 25th.

Mitchell's brother and his wife and go

THE AMERICAN RIFLEMEN.



The above team of American riflemen that outshot, July 11, the world's experts at Bisley, England, recapturing the Palma trophy by a score of 1,570 out of a possible 1,800 points, have just returned in great reception shortly. English and Norwegian teams are already planning to come over next year to try to

THE CAT CAME BACK.

Finds Its Way from El Dorado Home to Oskaloosa.

Oskaloosa, Kan., Aug. 15.—When J. W. Ross moved to El Dorado last February, old "Puss Pete," the cat, was put in a gunny sack and sent along with the rest of the stuff on the train. A few weeks ago Mr. Ross changed his residence at El Dorado and may be the cat didn't like the new quarters; anyway he put in an appearance at the barn at the Ross farm two miles south of Oskaloosa a week ago last Sunday.

It cannot be a case of mistaken identity for beside answering to his absurd name of Puss Pete, and his blue color with ring-striped tail—his ears are frostbitten.

The cat came back, that's certain. Now, how did it get here from Butler county, 150 miles away, and across the Neosho and Kansas rivers?

DRESSED FOR PARTY

And Then Committed Suicide by Drinking Acid.

New York, Aug. 15.—After arraying herself in evening dress for a dinner party, says a New Haven, Conn., dispatch, Mrs. Arthur E. Bradley drank carbolic acid and died in the presence of her parents and family. She was the handsome daughter of Loren H. Stannard, a wealthy manufacturer of glass, of North Topeka near Soldier creek where the train empties.

The long continued flow of water through this temporary channel has washed away the sandy banks, and the stream is now 16 or 20 feet wide in places, and is growing rapidly. If the rains do not stop, it may cause trouble by undermining sidewalks, and possibly endangering the foundations of buildings.

LOOKS LIKE A RIVER.

Drain Channel in North Topeka Is Very Active.

Street Commissioner Snyder reports that the channel which was cut by people of North Topeka to drain the big lakes west of town is growing to the dimensions of a river, and is causing considerable anxiety among the residents of North Topeka near Soldier creek where the drain empties.

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Marshall's Band Concert.

Last night's storm came too late to interfere with the concert by Marshall's band at the corner of Eighth and Harrison streets and that musical event was carried through with much success before a large and appreciative audience. The crowd was even larger than usual. Since the opening of Vinewood park and the engagement of the band for a series of concerts there the work of the organization has been rendered very active and last night's playing was better than usual. Last evening's programme was as follows:

PART I.
March, "Topeka State Journal"..... Marshall
Overture, "Norma"..... Bellini
Character piece, "Little Wag"..... Ellenberg
Flower song, "Hearts and Flowers"..... Tobani
Waltz, "Visions of a Beautiful Woman"..... Fahrbach
PART II.
March, "Constitution"..... Henninger
Selection, "Something Doing"..... Deyer
Chillean dance, "Manana"..... Missud
March, "Topeka Elks"..... Marshall

Gets Back Market Losses.

Milwaukee, August 15.—Mrs. Blanche Hubbell Smith, daughter of the late Jay Hubbell of Michigan, has recovered a portion of the money which was alleged had been misappropriated by Joseph Cowan, the young Wall street broker, through whom she sought a fortune in stock speculation. W. D. Harper, Mrs. Smith's attorney, says that while no evidence was produced to warrant

the holding of Cowan on a criminal charge, a civil suit that had been begun against him was settled to the satisfaction of his client.

According to Mr. Legler's figuring the school census was presented to the board of education last night by Secretary Legler. The most interesting feature of the count which has just been completed is the fact that Milwaukee has nearly 104,000 children of school age and only 59,559 are attending public or parochial schools. The increase over last year is 2,000.

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...ANNUAL... Kansas State Fair and Exposition

—TO BE HELD AT—

Topeka, Sept. 14-19, 1903

—BY THE—

KANSAS STATE EXPOSITION CO.

\$20,000 IN PREMIUMS

The State Fine Stock Show to be held under the auspices of the Kansas Improved Stock Breeders' Association.

The State Poultry Show to be held under the auspices of the Kansas State Poultry Association.

The Department of Horticulture to be held under the auspices of the Kansas State Horticultural Society.

The Department of Farm Products and Country Collective Exhibits to be held under the auspices of the Kansas State Grange.

The State Dairy Show under the auspices of the Kansas Dairy Association.

M. A. LOW,
President.

CHAS. H. SAMPSON,
Secretary.

TAX REFORM IN PERSIA.

It Is Said the Shah Proposes to Wipe Out Ancient System.

It is reported that the shah is about to abandon the time-honored oriental custom of farming out the taxes to contractors and have them collected directly by the government. This will put an end to an evil, the greatest of many, perhaps, under which Persian traders and citizens have for many years groaned. Misgovernment and maladministration in oriental lands is almost invariably connected with fiscal abuses and mismanagement of the revenue.

Particularly has this been the case in Persia, owing to the peculiar way in which the high officials and provincial rulers were selected by the shah. On the Persian new year day all the great functionaries of state and the governors paid their respects to the sovereign, and each laid at the monarch's feet his complimentary offering of what is known as "pish-kash" in current coin. The governor who brought the biggest bag received the fattest post for the ensuing 12 months. The governor whose bag was considered too light got nothing. The whole arrangement was a process

of "squeezing." The shah squeezed the governors, the governors the tax farmers, the tax farmers the people. "Pish-kash" was also offered by every prominent and wealthy man upon the sovereign honored with a visit, and, as the loyalty of the individual was gauged by the weight of the bag presented, it was not a good thing for a Persian if the gift fell short of the ruler's expectations. This custom was abolished a little time back, to the great satisfaction of the wealthy and upper classes of Persia. The change in the mode of collecting the revenue, by which the tax farmer is eliminated, is another step in the right direction.—London Times.

The Church and the Saloon.

We regret to read that a church in the neighborhood of New York has thought it necessary, in order to raise money to build an extension, to ask each saloonkeeper in the parish to give one day's receipts each month for four months to the building fund. The case affords, perhaps, an extreme illustration of the absurd and harmful expedients resorted to by churches to swell their financial receipts, expedients which tend

to bring religion into disrepute and churches, of which we hear so much, to rectify to swell the number of non-complainers in these days. The fault lies here partly, of course, in the meager and insufficient contributions to church maintenance made by the regular members of the churches themselves, but even this neglect cannot excuse the imposition of a tax upon the drink shops. The church and the saloon stand far apart in their character and purposes to make it expedient to yoke them together for any purpose. The saloon may profit by the arrangement, but the churches never.—Leslie's Weekly.

George J. Gould's Rise In the Railroad World

It is now known that the acquisition of the Western Maryland and the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh railways by George J. Gould is of far more importance than appeared on the surface at the time these roads passed into his control. When connecting links are constructed the Gould system, as the result of these deals, will extend in an unbroken line from Ogden, Utah, to Baltimore, thus satisfying one of the chief ambitions of the well known New York financier—the obtaining of an Atlantic outlet of his own. Mr. Gould has long been a prominent figure in the railroad world, and it is evident that he will soon be a greater factor than ever.

As it stands, the Gould system is far reaching, there being in all over 17,000 miles of road dominated by the Gould family or under its joint control, their lines ramifying from the east to Utah and the Gulf of Mexico. With the completion of the proposed extension, which it is expected will not require more than two years' labor, the present chain of roads will obviously be greatly strengthened. It goes without saying that Mr. Gould did not have clear sailing in this increasing his sphere of influence, and the story of his acquisition of an Atlantic seaport is the narrative of a battle of financial giants.

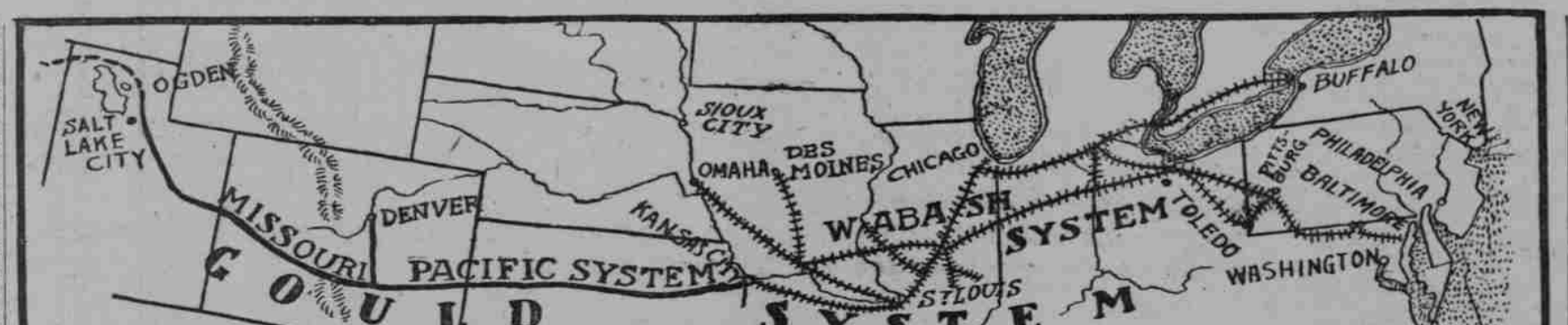
For years Mr. Gould discussed plans for the extension in the east of his most important road, the Wabash, without seeing his way clear to make such a move. Finally he effected an agreement with the Grand Trunk system, giving him traffic rights over that road and thus permitting him to enter Buffalo through Canada. Later Mr. Gould secured from both the Erie and the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western railroads the right of running through cars over their tracks, where-

by he was given an outlet at Jersey City and New York. But such an ocean outlet was by no means the ideal for which he was striving. Moreover, he was not satisfied with the New York port charges for dockage, etc., which in his opinion were so high as to militate seriously against the exportation of the commodities with which he expected to make up his tonnage, packing house products, coal and grain. So he kept his eyes and his ears open, and when he heard that the Western Maryland railroad, largely owned by the city of Baltimore, was on the market, he was quick to make a bid for it, since he saw that he could thereby obtain the convenient and economical outlet that he had so long desired, the Baltimore port charges being small in comparison with the New York demands.

But Mr. Gould was not to obtain the road without a struggle. The Reading company, backed, according to report, by several other trunk lines, entered into competition with him, and a long fight followed, ultimately ending in victory for Mr. Gould. His next step was to secure control of the West Virginia Central and Pittsburgh railway. Since then Mr. Gould has let it be known that he intends to bring the Wabash into Baltimore as speedily as possible.

Work is now being pressed on the Pittsburgh, Carnegie and Western railroad, connecting Pittsburgh and Steubenville. To complete the necessary connection between the Western Maryland and the Wheeling and Lake Erie lines it is only necessary to build a short link in West Virginia and another in Ohio. When the chain is finished the Wabash, instead of ending at Buffalo and Toledo, will reach Pittsburgh and Baltimore.

The story of how Mr. Gould managed to effect an entrance into Pittsburgh is an interesting chapter in the history of his trunk line scheme. At one time Mr. Gould had made an effort to secure control of a trunk line leading to New York, but this effort failed. Shortly afterward, casting about for an



IN HIS OFFICE.

GEORGE J. GOULD.

AS A POLO PLAYER.

ally who might directly or indirectly further his Atlantic outlet project, Mr. Gould hit upon Andrew Carnegie. Mr. Carnegie happened to be very anxious just about then to secure new means of transportation for the material used in his steel plants at Pittsburgh and the

products of these plants, and he felt that Mr. Gould was the man he needed to provide these means. Accordingly a compact between these two financial powers was effected, and as a result, despite strenuous opposition to the plan, a Gould line into the great iron and

steel center is in process of completion. It will readily be understood that the entrance of the Wabash into Baltimore will boom the shipping industry of that city. The United States government is at present engaged in widening and deepening the channel near the spot

where the Gould terminals will be located, and it is the intention of Mr. Gould to finish the work, if necessary, and secure a channel thirty feet deep to the Wabash docks. Mr. Gould's plans, as outlined by him in a recent interview, include the upbuilding of a

big cattle transportation business to Baltimore, and he also hears to rest outgoing ships from that port with coal mined by interests allied to him. The docks and other terminal facilities which he intends to build will be constructed on a scale commensurate with his hope of restoring Baltimore to her old time prestige as a shipping port.

If his plans are interesting, Mr. Gould's personality is doubly so. Contrary to what might be expected from his financial achievements of the past and his great undertakings of the present and future, Mr. Gould is one of the most unassuming of men, and it is one of his proudest boasts that he can pass daily through the streets of his home city without being recognized, save by those who know him personally. He is a hard, tireless worker, in George Gould, early on hand every business day at his office in the Western Union building in New York and steadily at his desk until it is time for him to catch the late afternoon train for Lake-wood, N. J., where he makes his home the greater part of the year. One of the most pleasing characteristics of the man is that he is a thorough home body, never happier than when in the company of his wife and children at Georgian Court, as his Lakewood residence is called.

He is as much the friend and companion of his boys as he is their father, shares their sports with them, notably polo, and whenever possible takes them with him on his tours of inspection over the many railroads in the control of which he plays a leading part. As a financier Mr. Gould is undoubtedly much more conservative than his father, the late Jay Gould, ever was, save in the closing years of his life, and does not attempt to dazzle Wall Street by any coup de finance. Whether or no his present plans and his alleged alliance with the Rockefeller interests will result in a change of policy it is impossible to foresee.

WALTON J. JAMES.